

1.(AMENDED) A system for providing a telephone service in a digital subscriber loop environment, comprising:

a customer interfacing unit for receiving an analog signal from a telephone and converting the analog signal into a digital signal in a first format, the first format being an ATM-compatible format;

a modem residing remotely from the customer interfacing unit for receiving the digital signal in a first format;

a signal digitizer capable of receiving the analog signal from the telephone;

the system, in a first mode of operation, coupling the digital signal in the first format to the modem; and in a second mode of operation, coupling the analog signal from the telephone to the digitizer.

IN THE ABSTRACT:

Please add the following Abstract.

-- A system and method are presented for providing a telephone service. An analog signal is received from a telephone and the analog signal is converted into a digital signal in a first format. A modem is provided for receiving the digital signal in the first format. A digitizer is also provided for receiving the analog signal from the telephone. The system, in a first mode of operation, couples the digital signal in the first format to the modem, and in a second mode of operation, couples the analog signal from the telephone to the digitizer. The second mode of operation may be, for example, a power failure mode of operation.--

REMARKS

The specification has been amended to include a reference to the priority applications.